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DC DL DOIM DS EH EN FSE GC IG JA MD PA PAO PM RC RM SLC RTF *2*
UNITS: PT ASOTBD CID COSCOM DRMO HCEBG HQCMOT INSCOM ISC JFK LAN REP *1*
PEDDAC RG ROTC SMO SFOB SOCLANT SOCCM SSD SWS 16MP 17MI 18CA 18ORD FLE ----
19REP 20ENG 35SIG 42APN 513MI 525MI 9C2MI ----

CFTCYUW RUMJCSA0954 2010926-CCCC--RUCLAKA.

DE RUSAKR #1254/01 2011230

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O R 200510Z JUL 97

FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3828

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5475

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 6790

INFO RUEHUU/AFGH AF COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASH DC 91

RUFHCH/AMEMBASSY COLUMBO 1874

RUFHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1333

RUSNNO4/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SR

RUMQMOA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUFQAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCC

RUCRRA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJLATION//

RUEJLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

RUCLFNA/347TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//

RUFNSHH/USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

RUEOAYB/ESTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTEVILLE VA//AIAS1-10/CH1//

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 08 KARUL 1254

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLANDS; PARIS ALSO FOR USDAO;
DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB. MS MILLIKAN; THE HAGUE FOR
A-DAM AND R-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: 7/20/93

TAGS: ASEC, MOPS, NCAP, PHUM, PINR, PINSAN PROP, SREF, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPOYO JULY 13-19, 1987

REF: KARUL 1209

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE BRIEFED TO JOURNALISTS
EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE NOTED. (NOTE TO BRIEFERS IN ISLAMABAD,
PESHAWAR AND NEW DELHI: YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER CONCENTRATING
ON SUMMARIES AND SELECTED EXCERPTS.)

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3. SUMMARY:

(A) (TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:) ON JULY 18 IN A MARKET AREA NEAR A SOVIET-PDPA RESIDENTIAL AREA A BOMB EXPLODED KILLING AND INJURING MANY. DIPLOMATS HAVE OBSERVED FIGHTING IN ALL DIRECTIONS FROM THE CITY: COMBAT HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY INTENSE TO THE WEST WHERE HUNDREDS OF DRA TROOPS ARE SAID TO HAVE DEFECTED TO THE MUJAHIDIN. TO THE EAST, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A SOVIET CAMP IN THE SUDURI AREA, KILLING 80 AND CAPTURING TEN. ELSEWHERE, MAJOR FIGHTING CONTINUES IN KANDAHAR WHERE MUJAHIDIN EARLY IN THE WEEK ROCKETED THE AIRPORT CONTROL TOWER. FIGHTING IS ALSO REPORTED IN WARDAK, LOGAR, NANGARHAR AND AROUND HERAT CITY. IN THE WAKE OF INTENSIFYING CONFLICT THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, NAJIB ANNOUNCED A SIX-MONTH EXTENSION OF THE DRA "CEASE-FIRE" SEVERAL DAYS PRIOR TO A JULY 19 DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW. ACCORDING TO NAJIB, DRA AND SOVIET FORCES WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACK MUJAHIDIN CARAVANS AND CAMPS. THE "CEASE-FIRE" NOTWITHSTANDING, THE DRA ALSO PROMULGATED A DRAFT CONSTITUTION. THE DOCUMENT CONFIRMS THE PDPA'S UNIQUE ROLE AS "ORGANIZER AND GUARANTOR OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION." NAJIB ALSO HAS OFFERED THE OPPOSITION 24 STATE POSTS IN A PROPOSED COALITION GOVERNMENT, RESERVING FOR THE PDPA THE KEY SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS POSTS. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, A DIPLOMAT WITNESSED THE TORTURE-BEATING OF A MAN IN THE COMPOUND OF A KEY REGIME SUPPORTER; AND REFUGEES ARE TAKING UP TEMPORARY SHELTER IN NORTHERN KABUL.

(B) (NOT TO BRIEFED TO PRESS:) ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED REPORTS, MUJAHIDIN HAVE CAPTURED INDIAN MILITARY PILOTS IN KANDAHAR AND WARDAK. THE DRA HAS INVITED THE UNHCR TO SEND A DELEGATION TO KABUL AND TO OPEN AN OFFICE. THE MOVE WOULD TEND TO LEND CREDIBILITY TO THE REGIME'S BOGUS REPATRIATION PROGRAM. THE FORMER DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER WILL BE AMONG SENIOR DRA OFFICIALS TRAVELING ABROAD TO LOBBY FOR DRA INTERESTS IN ADVANCE OF THE 1987 UNGA DEBATE ON THE AFGHANISTAN RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

4. KABUL PYROTECHNICS AND SECURITY:

KABUL WAS RELATIVELY QUIET DURING THE WEEK WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SEVERAL SHOOTING INCIDENTS, INCLUDING 20 MINUTES OF GUN FIRE IN NORTHERN KABUL AFTER MIDNIGHT ONE EVENING.

-- JULY 18 (PREVIOUS WEEK): AT 0550, ACCORDING TO DIPLOMATS LIVING IN THE AREA, A ROCKET IMPACTED NEAR THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

-- JULY 17: AT 0230 DIPLOMATS IN THE WAZIR AKBAR KHAN HEARD SHOTS AND THE SOUND OF CARS RACING OFF. THE DISTURBANCE OCCURRED NEAR OR AT A DRA GUESTHOUSE. DIPLOMATS ALSO HEARD INTERMITTENT OUTGOING ARTILLERY TO THE WEST.

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REP

MEODAC RG ROTC SAO SFOD SOCLANT SOCOM SSD SWS 164P 17MI 18CA 18ORD

FILE

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DE RUSBKA #1254/02 2011230

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O R 2005107 JUL 87

FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3820

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RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1378

RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SP

RUMHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

RHFQAAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCC

RUDORRA/USNMR SHAPE RE//INTAFF//

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RUEOLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

RUCLFNA/387TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//

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RUEOAYRXXFSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-10/CHI//

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 08 KARUL 1254

-- JULY 14: AT 1020 DIPLOMATS OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE A CLASH SEVERAL KMS WEST OF THE CITY. DRA OR SOVIET UNITS FIRED MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS AS WHAT LOOKED LIKE INCOMING ROUNDS STRUCK NEAR THE FIRING POSITIONS. AS THE FIGHTING INTENSIFIED, PI-24'S ENTERED THE AREA, FLYING EXTREMELY LOW. MACHINE GUN FIRE, APPARENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE FIGHTING, WAS HEARD. AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TIME, DIPLOMATS OBSERVED EIGHT PARACHUTE CLUSTER FLARES (SEVEN PER CLUSTER) NORTH OF KARUL. OTHERS CLUSTER FLARES WERE OBSERVED TO THE SOUTH. THE FLARES MAY HAVE BEEN TO GIVE ADDED SECURITY TO AN ARRIVING FLIGHT BEARING A DRA DELEGATION FROM INDIA LED BY DRA MINISTER OF TRILAL AFFAIRS SULAIMAN LAEO.

-- JULY 15: DIPLOMATS REPORTED HEARING OUTGOING ARTILLERY TO THE WEST BETWEEN 0910 AND 0930 AND AN EXPLOSION TO THE THE NORTHWEST AT 1143. AT 1330 THERE WAS OUTGOING ARTILLERY

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NORTH OF KABUL AND AT 1400 TO THE WEST. DIPLOMATS ALSO REPORTED OUTGOING ARTILLERY INTERMITTENTLY BETWEEN 2000 AND 2200. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT CLAIMED THAT A SOVIET NATIONAL AND A PARTY OFFICIAL WERE KILLED OVERNIGHT IN KARTE SEI. FOLLOWING THE INCIDENT, MANY RESIDENTS OF THE AREA WERE TAKEN TO SADARAT PRISON AND INTERROGATED, IN SOME CASES BRUTALLY.

-- JULY 16: DIPLOMATS REPORTED MACHINE GUN AND LIGHT ARTILLERY FIRE BETWEEN 0100 AND 0120 IN THE VICINITY OF BIRI MARU-WAZIR AKRAR KHAN. AT 1235 DIPLOMATS HEARD AN EXPLOSION. 59 503 .9458235. BETWEEN 2105 AND 2220 RESIDENTS OF WAZIR AKRAR KHAN HEARD SINGLE AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE THREE TIMES, APPARENTLY NEAR THE U.S. EMBASSY.

-- JULY 17: DIPLOMATS OBSERVED PARACHUTE CLUSTER FLARES SOUTH OF THE CITY AT 0827. LATER IN THE MORNING EXPLOSIONS WERE HEARD TO THE SOUTHWEST. AT 1715 AN EXPLOSION WAS HEARD WEST OF KABUL.

-- JULY 18: AT 1729 A BOMB ATTACHED TO A MOTOR BIKE (ACCORDING TO DRA MEDIA) EXPLODED IN THE MARKET (NUMBER 3) AREA OF MICRORAYON NUMBER 1 IN SOUTHEAST KABUL. THE TARGET APPEARED TO BE A NEW MODERN MARKET AT THE EDGE OF A SOVIET AND POPA-CAORE HOUSING COMPLEX. DRA MEDIA REPORTED THREE PERSONS WERE KILLED (ALL AFGHAN) AND MANY INJURED. AFGHAN SOURCES, HOWEVER, CLAIMED AT LEAST TWO SOVIETS WERE KILLED AND AN UNKNOWN NUMBER INJURED. THE GLASS SHATTERED IN THE MARKET BUILDING AND IN ADJACENT APARTMENT BUILDINGS. FOUR AUTOMOBILES WERE DESTROYED. WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE BLAST REPAIRS HAD LARGELY BEEN COMPLETED WITH LITTLE EVIDENCE REMAINING THAT A BOMB HAD RIPPED THROUGH THE AREA THE PREVIOUS DAY.

-- JULY 19: FROM 2145 UNTIL 2230 DIPLOMATS OBSERVED PERIODIC FLASHES, POSSIBLY CAUSED BY INCOMING ORDNANCE, SOUTHWEST OF THE CITY. FLARE ACTIVITY WAS INTENSE ALONG THE SOUTHERN RIM OF THE CITY THROUGH MOST OF THE EVENING. AT THE SAME TIME, SURVEILLANCE HELICOPTERS CIRCLED OVER THE KABUL AIRPORT AREA.

5. MILITARY MOVEMENT IN THE KABUL AREA:

(4) (AIR:) DURING THE WEEK 34 IL-76'S ARRIVED AND DEPARTED, UP FROM 19 THE PREVIOUS WEEK; IN ADDITION, 11 SOVIET TU-154'S ARRIVED AND DEPARTED. BOTH TYPES OF AIRCRAFT RECEIVED MI-24 ESCORT ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE. BOTH TYPES OF AIRCRAFT, AND ESPECIALLY THE IL-76'S, FLEW MUCH TIGHTER CORKSCREW PATTERNS ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE THAN PREVIOUSLY NOTED. ALSO FOR THE FIRST TIME A DEPARTING TU-154 WAS SEEN TO DISPENSE FLARES. AN IL-76 MADE AN UNPRECEDENTED MID-EVENING DEPARTURE DROPPING FLARES IN A DRAMATIC DISPLAY.

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A 5x5 grid of dots forming the word "HELLO". The letters are constructed as follows: 'H' uses dots at (1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (1,5), (2,1), (2,2), (2,3), (2,4), (2,5), (3,1), (3,2), (3,3), (3,4), (3,5), (4,1), (4,2), (4,3), (4,4), (4,5), (5,1), (5,2), (5,3), (5,4), (5,5); 'E' uses dots at (1,6), (1,7), (1,8), (1,9), (1,10), (2,6), (2,7), (2,8), (2,9), (2,10), (3,6), (3,7), (3,8), (3,9), (3,10), (4,6), (4,7), (4,8), (4,9), (4,10), (5,6), (5,7), (5,8), (5,9), (5,10); 'L' uses dots at (1,11), (1,12), (1,13), (1,14), (1,15), (2,11), (2,12), (2,13), (2,14), (2,15), (3,11), (3,12), (3,13), (3,14), (3,15), (4,11), (4,12), (4,13), (4,14), (4,15), (5,11), (5,12), (5,13), (5,14), (5,15); 'O' uses dots at (1,16), (1,17), (1,18), (1,19), (1,20), (2,16), (2,17), (2,18), (2,19), (2,20), (3,16), (3,17), (3,18), (3,19), (3,20), (4,16), (4,17), (4,18), (4,19), (4,20), (5,16), (5,17), (5,18), (5,19), (5,20); 'O' uses dots at (1,21), (1,22), (1,23), (1,24), (1,25), (2,21), (2,22), (2,23), (2,24), (2,25), (3,21), (3,22), (3,23), (3,24), (3,25), (4,21), (4,22), (4,23), (4,24), (4,25), (5,21), (5,22), (5,23), (5,24), (5,25).

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MEDDAC RG ROTC S40 SFO N SOCLANT SOCOM SSD SWS 16MP 17MI 18CA 18ORD FLF ----
19REP 20ENG 35SIG 42APN 513MI 525MI 902MI ----

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O R 202510Z JUL 87 ZOK DUE TO NUMEROUS SVCS
FM AMEMBASSY KARUL
TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3430
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5477
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4792
INFO RUEHHU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1793
RUFHCH/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1876
RUFHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1335
RUSNNO4/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SP
RIHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RUFDA44/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
RHFOAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE
RHFOAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCC
RUDCRAA/USNMR SHAPE RE//INTAFF//
RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJWAION//
RUEOLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP
RUCLFNA/347TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//
RUFNSHH/USNOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
RUEOAYR/FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-IO/CHI//
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 08 KARUL 1254

-- JULY 13: THREE IL-76'S AND TWO TU-154'S ARRIVED
THEN DEPARTED.
-- JULY 14: NINE IL-76'S AND TWO TU-154'S ARRIVED
THEN DEPARTED.
-- JULY 15: AT 0410 TWELVE HELICOPTERS ARRIVED AT KARUL AIRPORT.
FIVE IL-76'S AND ONE TU-154 ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.
-- JULY 16: FOUR IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.
-- JULY 17: FIVE IL-76'S AND THREE TU-154'S ARRIVED THEN
DEPARTED.
-- JULY 18: FOUR IL-76'S AND ONE TU-154 ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED
-- JULY 19: R IL-76'S AND W TU-154'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.
ONE TU-154 DEPARTED AT 0515, SUGGESTING AN UNUSUAL
OVERNIGHT ARRIVAL.

(B) (VEHICULAR MOVEMENT): CONVOY MOVEMENT WAS RELATIVELY LIGHT
DURING THE WEEK.

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--JULY 13: AT 1000 A CONVOY OF APPROXIMATELY 75 VEHICLES ENTERED NORTHERN KABUL FROM THE SALANG ROAD.
-- JULY 14: A SOVIET FUEL CONVOY (UNIT ID NUMBER 1033) ARRIVED IN NORTHERN KABUL VIA THE SALANG ROAD AT 1735.
--JULY 15: AT 0415 TWO SOVIET CONVOCYS (UNIT ID NUMBERS 1021 AND 1111) WERE OBSERVED STAGED NORTH ON THE SALANG ROAD. 20-23 GUN TRUCKS ESCORTED THE CONVOY. AT 0625 OVER 60 SOVIET FUEL TRUCKS (UNIT ID NUMBER 1032), ESCORTED BY 20-23 GUN TRUCKS, LEFT PERIMETER ROAD AND HEADED EAST ON JALALABAD ROAD. AT 1730 A MUSTY SOVIET COLUMN MOVED WEST ON PERIMETER ROAD AND ENTERED SOVIET BASE NUMBER THREE. IT INCLUDED EIGHT SELF-PROPELLED GUNS (152MM), SIX RM-27 MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS, THREE ARTILLERY CONTROL VEHICLES AND 20 TRUCKS.
--JULY 16: AT 0600 A MIXED SOVIET BATTLE GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 100 VEHICLES WAS NOTED IN BIVOUACED ON PERIMETER ROAD. IT INCLUDED SELF-PROPELLED GUNS, T-62'S SOME FITTED WITH MINE CLEARING EQUIPMENT, RM-21'S, RMP'S AND BTR'S.
JULY 18: AT 0625 TWENTY-EIGHT SOVIET COVERED TRUCKS (UNIT ID NUMBER 145) ESCORTED BY 20-23 GUN TRUCKS AND BTR-80'S, MOVED ON PERIMETER ROAD. AT 1400 OVER 50 SOVIET TRUCKS (UNIT ID 1023) MOVED FROM THE JALALABAD ROAD TO PERIMETER ROAD.
--JULY 19: BETWEEN 0300 AND 0330 A SOVIET ARMOR COLUMN, POSSIBLY THAT NOTED BIVOUACED JULY 16 (ABOVE), MOVED WEST THROUGH NORTHERN KABUL.
--COMBAT IN THE PROVINCES--

6. KAPUL PROVINCE: (FOR KAPUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS SEE PARA'S 4.5)

(A) (KAPUL EAST:) MUJAHIDIN HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY ACTIVE IN THE SORUBI AREA (34°36'N 69°43'E):
ON JULY 10, ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC REPORT, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A SOVIET CAMP NEAR PUL-I-ISTENKAN. IN THE ATTACK 80 SOVIET TROOPS DIED AND TEN WERE CAPTURED. IN THE SAME AREA, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A SOVIET CONVOY JULY 7, DESTROYING SIX TRUCKS WITH ROCKET FIRE, SUBSEQUENT FIGHTING CAUSED CLOSURE OF THE ROAD UNTIL JULY 9. TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED IN THE INITIAL FIGHTING. ON THE 9TH, ACCORDING TO A SEPARATE RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE, MUJAHIDIN ROCKED TWO MILITARY TRACTORS, DESTROYING THEM AND KILLING THEIR OPERATORS. DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED SIX SOVIET POSTS, CAPTURING LARGE STORES OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION. IN A JULY 1 ATTACK, MUJAHIDIN CAPTURED TWO SOVIET (TADZHIK) SOLDIERS AND DESTROYED FOUR VEHICLES. A SEPARATE SOURCE REPORTED THE SOVIETS SENT REINFORCEMENTS TO THE AREA ON JULY 14.
THAT EVENING, DIPLOMATS OBSERVED MUZZLE FLASHES AND EXPLOSIONS EAST OF KABUL FROM 2100 TO 2145. FINALLY, AN AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS SOVIET TROOPS ARE MASSING SOUTHEAST OF THE CITY AT YAKHDARA (34°27'N 69°16'E) IN THE SORUBI AREA.

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INFO RUEHHU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1794

RUEHCH/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1977

RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1336H

RUSNNO1/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GF

RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG AFVS//POE//SR

RUMHQH/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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RHFQAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//?????PRU??RA/USNMR SHAPE RE//INTAFF//

RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACILL AFB FL//CCJLATION//

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(R) (KABUL WEST:) DURING JULY 12-13.

ACCORDING TO MULTIPLE AFGHAN SOURCES, APPROXIMATELY 500

DRA TROOPS DEFECTED TO THE MUJAHIDIN, POSSIBLY IN RESPONSE,

SOVIET FORCES ON JULY 14 CONDUCTED AIR AND GROUND OPERATIONS WEST

OF KABUL THAT WERE VISIBLE AND AUDIBLE FROM THE CAPITAL. SOVIET/

DRA FORCES FIRED MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS AND ARTILLERY FROM

THE KARGHA AREA AS HELICOPTERS APPEARED TO HUNT ENEMY FORCES.

AT THE SAME TIME, PLUMES OF DUST AND SMOKE SUGGESTED INCOMING

ROUNDS TARGETTED AGAINST THE SOVIET POSITIONS. AN AFGHAN REPORTED

PLANES AT HIGH ALTITUDE CONDUCTED BOMBING STRIKES AGAINST THE

PAGHMAN (OWN)-CHANDAL RAI AREA ON JULY 16. A SEPARATE AFGHAN

SOURCE CLAIMED FAMILIES FROM PAGHMAN HAVE BEEN FLEEING TO KABUL

SINCE EARLY JULY. A DRA MILITARY SOURCE CLAIMED THAT SOME

SARANDOI UNITS WHICH HAD BEEN DEPLOYED AT KARGHA LAKE FOR OVER

A MONTH HAVE MOVED WEST TOWARD PAGHMAN TOWN AND SET UP BASES IN

WHAT THE SOURCE DESCRIBED AS "VERY DANGEROUS LOCATIONS."

A REGULAR AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTED UNCOORDINATED, RANDOM FIRING

FROM A 400-500 MAN SAPA/DCI POST IN THE REKTUT AREA

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* C O N F I D E N T I A L *

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(140347N 480540E) ON JULY 16. NO MUJAHIDIN WERE IN THE AREA. A DIPLOMAT OF UNDETERMINED RELIABILITY REPORTED THAT MUJAHIDIN DOWNED A HELICOPTER IN THE PUGHMAN AREA JULY 9.

FINALLY, A RESIDENT OF KARGHA REPEATED TO US AN ACCOUNT RECEIVED SEVERAL MONTHS EARLIER THAT AT NIGHT LOCAL RESIDENTS SHUT OFF ALL EXTERIOR LIGHTING AT THE REQUEST OF MUJAHIDIN WHO ROVE ABOUT THE AREA AFTER DARK. DRA OFFICIALS WHO CONDEMN THE PRACTICE ARE REMINDED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS THAT THEY HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO COMPLY WITH THE MUJAHIDIN REQUEST BECAUSE AT NIGHT THE AREA, EIGHT KMS WEST OF KABUL, IS UNDER MUJAHIDIN CONTROL.

(C) KARL NORTH:) AN AFGHAN REPORTED HEAVY FIGHTING TO THE NORTH OF KARUL ON THE NIGHT OF JULY 14-15. DIPLOMATS HEARD LIGHT ARMS FIRE IN THE KHAIR KHAN PASS AFTER 1730 AND AT 2300 SAW FLASHES FROM EXPLOSIONS AND MORTAR FIRE IN THE VICINITY OF DEH YENYA, FIVE KMS NORTH OF KARUL AIRPORT. TYPABLE AFGHANS REPORT THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN JAMIAI AND HAKIMAT MUJAHIDIN IN THE FAR PAST AREA ARE POOR. (SIMILAR REPORTS IN RECENT WEEKS SUGGEST CHRONIC TENSION THERE BETWEEN MUJAHIDIN GROUPS. REFUGEES, MOSTLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ARE REPORTED TO BE COMING INTO KARUL FROM THE SHAKADARA AREA, SITE OF REPORTED HIGH ALTITUDE BOMBING ON JULY 16.

(O) (KABUL SOUTH:) A REGULAR AFGHAN SOURCE WHO WAS SOUTH OF KABUL JULY 14 OBSERVED HEAVY BOMBING STRIKES IN THE MUSAI AREA (34°22'N 69°12'E) AND AT LALANDAR (SOUTHWEST OF KABUL). FIGHTING ON THE CHAHAR ASIAR AREA (34°24'N 69°09'E) RECENTLY HAS TAPERED OFF. AS A RESULT MUJAHIDIN REPORTEDLY ARE USING THE AREA TO REST AND RESUPPLY.

7. KANDAHAR: A RELIABLE SOURCE WITH GOOD ACCESS TO KANDAHAR
INFORMATION REPORTED THAT ON OR ABOUT JULY 14 75 AN IEDIN
STRUCK THE KANDAHAR AIRPORT CONTROL TOWER WITH A ROCKET CAUSING SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE. THE SAME SOURCE REPORTED
THAT SOVIET/DRA FORCES IN THE KANDAHAR AREA ARE ATTEMPTING
TO COMPLETE A TRIPLE-RING DEFENSE OF THE CITY. THE FIRST
RING COMPRISES A ROAD (SEE PARA 7th REF A) WHILE THE SECOND
AND THIRD CONSIST OF SMALL POSTS, MINED AREAS AND BARBED
WIRE. FINALLY, AN AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMS THAT LARGE NUMBERS
OF WOUNDED MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM KANDAHAR CONTINUE TO
ARRIVE AT KANUL'S CROWD HOSPITALS.

8. LOGAR: A REGULAR AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMS THAT IN JULY 12-12 FIGHTING MODARA ???ARHPUL-I-ALAM) SOVIET FORCES WORE SARANDOI UNIFORMS AND SARANDOI IN TURN WERE DRESSED AS SOVIETS. THE MUJAHIDIN, WHO RECENTLY HAVE BEEN WIDELY REPORTED TO BE TARGETTING SOVIET TROOPS AND AVOIDING CONTACT WITH REGULAR CRA AND SARANDOI TROOPS, ALLEGEDLY USED LOUD SPEAKERS TO APPEAL TO "THE MUSLIMS" TO COME TO THE MUJAHIDIN SIDE. SOME REPORTEDLY DID. IN THE

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FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3832

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5479

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INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1795

RUEHFC/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1878

RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1337

RUEHNOA/USCINCEUR WASHINGTON GE

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RUEHJAC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJWAION//

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HEAVY SUBSEQUENT FIGHTING. MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED

27-29 ARMORED VEHICLES. EVENTUALLY AIRCRAFT

WERE CALLED IN TO HOMB MUJAHIDIN POSITIONS.

A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE REPORTED MUJAHIDIN

AMBUSHED A DRA CONVOY IN A PASS ON THE OGAR ROAD ON JULY 15.

DESTROYING THREE TANKS AND THREE OTHER VEHICLES.

MANY DRA TROOPS WERE KILLED. HELICOPTERS REMOVED

THE DEAD AND WOUNDED. ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE, ON

JULY 9 MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED SIX SOVIET ARMORED ? VEHICLES AND KILLED SIX SOVIET TR

OOPS AT JAKHA JAN

NEAR KOLANGAR (34°02'N 69°01'E). MUJAHIDIN

ALSO DOWNED A HELICOPTER IN THE FIGHTING.

9. WARDAK: AFGHAN SOURCES CLAIM A TOTAL OF 13

AIRCRAFT INCLUDING SEVEN HELICOPTERS WERE DOWNED IN RECENT

FIGHTING IN NORTHERN WARDAK. A SEPARATE SOURCE REPORTS THAT

ON JULY 11 HELICOPTERS ATTACKED THE JALEZE AREA (WEST OF

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MAIDAN SHAR). CIVILIANS WERE KILLED IN THE ATTACK. AN AFGHAN CLAIMS THAT ON JULY 14, MUJAHIDIN HIT A HELICOPTER IN THE NGRFALAT AREA (NEAR MAIDAN SHAR). THE HELICOPTER ATTEMPTED TO RETURN TO KARUL AIRPORT BUT CRASHED INTO ALIARAD MOUNTAIN AT 0700. (COMMENT: WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM THIS REPORT OF A HELICOPTER CRASH INSIDE THE CITY.)

AFGHAN AND DIPLOMATIC REPORTING INDICATE WHILE SKIRMISHING CONTINUES, SOVIET/DRA FORCES HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO BREAK THROUGH MUJAHIDIN POSITIONS AT JALEZE.

10. GHAZNI: ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE MUJAHIDIN ON JULY 7, ATTACKED A DRA SUPPLY CONVOY ONE KM SOUTH OF GHAZNI TOWN AT A SITE CALLED JIFATOU.

11. SAMANGAN: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTED THAT ON THE NIGHT OF JULY 14-15 MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN A DRA POST AT RORATK (34°09'N 68°24'E). THE SAME SOURCE CLAIMS THAT ON JULY 10 MUJAHIDIN AMBUSHED A SOVIET CONVOY TRAVELING FROM SAMANGAN TOWN TO MEYMAVEH, DESTROYING AND DAMAGING 17 VEHICLES.

12. NANGARHAR: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT WITH GOOD ACCESS TO NANGARHAR INFORMATION CLAIMS THAT ON JULY 1 MUJAHIDIN, ASSISTED BY LOCAL PEOPLE, ATTACKED SOVIET POSITIONS IN THE KHUGIAMI AREA (34°15'N 70°11'E). IN THE FIGHTING MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED TEN VEHICLES AND DOWNED 3 HELICOPTERS. DIPLOMATS RELYING ON SEPARATE SOURCES REPORT HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE AREA OF JALALABAD. ONE REPORT CLAIMS THAT MUJAHIDIN ROCKETED THE CITY AND ITS ENVIRONS ON JULY 7.

13. BAHLAN: A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE REPORTS THAT ON JULY 2 MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A KHAO (MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY) POST AT PHILI KHUMRI (35°56'N 68°43'E), KILLING EIGHT KHAO SOLDIERS AND CAPTURING FOUR.

14. LAGHMAN: ACCORDING TO A DIPLOMAT WITH A GOOD REPORTING RECORD, MUJAHIDIN AND DRA/SOVIET FORCES CLASHED IN LAGHMAN TOWN JULY 12-13.

15. HERAT: A RECENT VISITOR TO HERAT CLAIMED THAT WHILE HE HEARD FIGHTING AT NIGHT, THE CITY WAS LARGELY PEACEFUL. SEPARATE REPORTS FROM A KNOWLEDGEABLE DIPLOMAT AND AN AFGHAN CLAIM THAT FIGHTING CONTINUES ON NEARLY ALL SIDES OF THE CITY.

16. PARWAN: MUJAHIDIN AND DRA FORCES REPORTEDLY CLASHED NEAR CHARIKAR ON JULY 14.

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FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3433

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5440

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6795

INFO RUEHHU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/OSTA WASHDC 1796

RUFHOM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1879

RUFHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1338

RUSNNO4/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

RUCLAK A/FT BRAGG MC AFVS//POE//SB

RUMHQH4/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUFQAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCC

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17. PLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

(A) (DRAFT CONSTITUTION PROMULGATED:) ON JULY 15
KARUL PRINT MEDIA CARRIED THE TEXT OF THE LONG-ANTICIPATED
DRAFT DRA CONSTITUTION. OSTENSIBLY RELEASED FOR PUBLIC
COMMENT AND CONSULTATION THE DRAFT COPIFIES
THE POPA'S SPECIAL STATUS AND CALLS FOR A STRONG
EXECUTIVE ALONG WITH A BICAMERAL "NATIONAL ASSEMBLY."
A SENIOR SOVIET DIPLOMAT TOLD A COLLEAGUE THAT THE
DOCUMENT, SUPPOSEDLY UNDER PREPARATION FOR OVER ONE YEAR,
IN FACT WAS "HASTILY PREPARED" AS REFLECTED IN THE FAILURE
THE DOCUMENT TO EXPLAIN HOW THE LOYA JIRGA (GRAND COUNCIL),
WHICH IS TO APPROVE THE CONSTITUTION, IS ITSELF TO BE
CONSTITUTED. KARUL 1230 (NOTAL) REPORTS ON THE DRAFT IN
MORE DETAIL.

(B) ("CEASE-FIRE" EXTENDED:) IN A TELEVISED SPEECH
JULY 14, NAJIB ANNOUNCED THAT THE DRA "CEASE-FIRE"

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WOULD BE EXTENDED FOR SIX MONTHS. NAJIB NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT MUJAHIDIN BASES AND CARAVANS WOULD CONTINUE TO COME UNDER ATTACK, THE "CEASE-FIRE" NOTWITHSTANDING. HE ALSO SET FORTH WHICH REGIME POSITIONS COULD BE SHARED WITH THE OPPOSITION. KEY PORTFOLIOS, INCLUDING DEFENSE, INTERIOR, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND STATE SECURITY, WERE NOT AMONG THOSE OFFERED. KARUL 1235 (NCTAL) REPORTS MORE EXTENSIVELY ON THIS SPEECH.

(C) (ADMINISTRATIVE ZONES ABOLISHED:) A RELIABLE SENIOR DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT RECENTLY THE DRA ABOLISHED THE "ADMINISTRATIVE ZONE" SYSTEM THROUGH WHICH THE COUNTRY WAS DIVIDED INTO GEOGRAPHIC AREAS. (COMMENT: ONE ANALYSIS SUGGESTS THE MOVE IS INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE GREATER LOCAL AUTONOMY. ONE PRACTICAL EFFECT WILL BE TO ACCORD GREATER POWER TO THE SECURITY ZONE COMMANDERS WHO PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THROUGH THE ADMINISTRATIVE ZONE HEADS BUT WHO NOW WILL REPORT DIRECTLY TO KARUL.)

(D) (SARRELAND) A SECRET CHANNEL TO THE MUJAHIDIN??
A DIPLOMAT OF UNDETERMINED RELIABILITY CLAIMS THAT
BEFORE HIS APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO CUBA IN
NOVEMBER 1986, THEN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ABDOUL MAJID
SARRELAND FUNCTIONED AS A SECRET CHANNEL OF
COMMUNICATION TO THE MUJAHIDIN. BECAUSE OF A SERIOUS
ERROR, HOWEVER, HE WAS DIVESTED OF THIS RESPONSIBILITY.
(COMMENT: WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THIS REPORT AND
CONSIDER IT DUBIOUS.)

(F) (MORE AFGHAN HAJ PILGRIMS?) A SAUDI DIPLOMAT HERE CLAIMS THAT HE EXPECTS THE NUMBER OF AFGHANS PERFORMING THE HAJ THIS YEAR WILL REACH ABOUT 4,000 OR APPROXIMATELY 1,000 MORE THAN WENT IN 1986. THIS NUMBER, HOWEVER, IS FAR BELOW THE 7,000 WHICH THE ORA CLAIMS IT IS SENDING.

1A. HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS:

(A) (MAN TORTURED IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN:) DURING THE EVENING OF JULY 13, A U.S. DIPLOMAT WAS WITNESS TO THE TORTURE OF A MAN IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN. THE PERPETRATORS, APPARENTLY FOLLOWERS OF THE MUJAHIDIN TURNCOAT ESMATULLAH MUSLIM (SEE PARA 7A REFTTEL), TIED A YOUNG MAN BY HIS ARMS TO A TREE IN A YARD OF A GUEST HOUSE BELONGING TO ESMATULLAH. THE MAN, WHO WAS SUSPENDED FROM THE TREE IN A SQUATTING POSITION, WAS BEATEN BY A MAN WITH A ROD OVER AN HOUR AS FOUR OR FIVE OTHERS LOOKED ON. AS HE WAS BEATEN THE MAN SHOUTED "ALLAH" AND "MEGUM" (I WILL TALK) IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE BEATING. THE SOUNDS OF THE BLOWS AND HIS SCREAMS WERE AUDIBLE THROUGHOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND WERE UNDOUBTEDLY HEARD BY POLICE AND REGIME GUARDS MANNING ROAD BLOCKS AND GUARD POSTS IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN TO STOP THE

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HEATING. HOWEVER. THE MAN WAS LAST SEEN LYING STILL
ON THE GROUND.

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3434

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5481

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6796

INFO RUEHHH/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1797

RUEHOM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1890

RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1339

RUSVNO4/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG MC AFVS//POE//SP

RUMHMO4/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUEHAAA/STINCUSAREP HEIDELBERG GE

RHEQAAA/MC USAF2 PANSTEIN AB GE

RHEQAAA/HQ USAFELPANSTEIN AB GE//INCO

RUDORPA/USMR SHAPE RE//INTAFF//

RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJLAION//

RUEJLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

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(B) (REFUGEES SETTLING IN NORTH KABUL:) A DIPLOMAT REPORTS OBSERVING LARGE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES IN TEMPORARY SHELTERS IN VACANT LOTS IN NORTHERN KABUL. FOR MANY MONTHS AFGHAN SOURCES HAVE REPORTED ON THE INCREASING MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM THE NORTH, WEST AND SOUTH OF KABUL INTO THE CAPITAL.

(C) (YOUNG VICTIMS OF WAR IN KABUL:) ACCORDING TO DIPLOMATS, THERE ARE CONTINUING INCIDENTS OF CHILDREN BEING KILLED BY FLARES DROPPED OVER KABUL BY ARRIVING AND DEPARTING AIRCRAFT. A SEPARATE REPORT CLAIMS TWO YOUNG GIRLS WERE KILLED IN MID-JULY BY A SMALL "BOMB" THEY FOUND AND WERE PLAYING WITH.

19. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:

A TU-154 WAS OBSERVED THIS WEEK DISPENSING FLARES AS IT

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21. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS:

22. KASIM MERTA:

C) (MUJAHIDIN ATTACK GARZE?) KARUL TELEVISION REPORTED
ON JULY 14 THAT SIX PERSONS WERE KILLED AND 11 INJURED IN

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A ROCKET ATTACK ON GARDEZ, PAKTIA PROVINCE.

23. FORATS:

(A) ("BALKH", PARA 11. REFTEL:) ENTRY SHOULD
READ "APPROXIMATELY 700 (VICE 1700) YOUNG MEN
WERE SENT TO KANDAHAR..."

(B) ("AIRCRAFT LOSSES", PARA 19 B. REFTEL:)
"...TEN (VICE OFTEN) AIRCRAFT WERE DOWNED ON
JULY 3."

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MEDDAC R6 ROTC SMO SFO D SOCLANT SOCOM SSD SWS 16MP 17MI 1ACA 18ORF FLE ----
19REP 20ENG 35SIG 42A9N 513MI 525MI 9C2MI ----

OFTCZYUW RUMJCS AN055 2011601-CCCC--RUCLAKA.

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO RUE4IL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3835

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5482

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6797

INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1798

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RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB

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RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE

RHFQAAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCC

RHDCRRA/USNMR SHAPE RE//INTAFF//

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24. NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:

(A) (REPORTS OF CAPTURED INDIAN PILOTS:)

AN AFGHAN SOURCE FROM KANDAHAR REPORTS THAT IN MID-JUNE FIGHTING IN THE KANDAHAR AREA MUJAHIDIN DOWNED TWO OR THREE JETS WHICH WERE PILOTTED BY INDIAN NATIONALS. MUJAHIDIN CAPTURED TWO OF THE INDIANS WHILE A THIRD WAS KILLED. PAKISTANI DIPLOMATS (PROTECT) CLAIM THAT IN JULY 3 FIGHTING IN THE MAIDAN SHA REA OF NORTHERN WARDAK ONE OR POSSIBLY TWO INDIAN PILOTS WERE CAPTURED FOLLOWING THE DOWNING OF JET AIRCRAFT WHICH ATTACKED MUJAHIDIN POSITIONS IN THE AREA. THE PILOT(S) REPORTEDLY WILL BE TAKEN TO PAKISTAN BY THEIR MUJAHIDIN CAPTORS. (COMMENT: WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION FOR THESE REPORTS. THE MAIDAN SHA STORY IS ALLEGEDLY DRAWN FROM MULTIPLE AFGHAN

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SOURCES FROM THE AREA, BUT OUR BEST MAIDAN SHAR AREA SOURCE CANNOT CONFIRM.)

(B) (UNHCR TO LAUNCH OPERATION IN KABUL?)

A SENIOR UN OFFICIAL IN KABUL, SOURCING THE DRA MFA, CLAIMS THE UNHCR HAS ACCEPTED A CRA INVITATION TO SEND A TEAM TO KABUL TO DISCUSS UNHCR INVOLVEMENT IN THE RE-SETTLEMENT OF PRE-PEACE ACCORD REFUGEES (I.E. THOSE ALLEGEDLY RETURNING IN RESPONSE TO THE REGIME'S "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION" PROGRAM AND HAS BEEN INVITED TO OPEN AN OFFICE IN KABUL. CURRENTLY THERE IS A UNHCR "SECTION" WITHIN THE U.N. STRUCTURE, ADMINISTERED BY THE UNDP WHICH IS THE LEAD U.N. AGENCY. IN A PERHYPOTHESED DEVELOPMENT IT HAS BEEN LEARNED THAT THE UNHCR "SECTION" OFFICE IS BEING MOVED OUT OF THE U.N. COMPOUND TO SEPARATE FACILITIES.

(C) (YURISH TO THE MIDDLE EAST?) IN ADDITION OTHER DRA OFFICIALS SPECIFICALLY ASSIGNED TO TRAVEL ABROAD THIS SUMMER IN SEARCH OF SUPPORT FOR THE DRA ON NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND THE UNGA 1987 VOTE ON THE AFGHANISTAN RESOLUTION. GHULAM SARWAR YURISH (FORMER DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER AND CURRENTLY PRIDENT OF THE BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY, THE STATE NEWS BUREAU, WITH RANK OF MINISTER) WILL GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST. YURISH ALSO TRAVELED TO BAGHDAD AND CYPRUS IN THE PAST YEAR ON OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

(D) (POWER GENERATION PROBLEMS?) THE SWISS FIRM BROWN BOVERI AND COMPANY, RESPONSIBLE FOR UPGRADING THE REGIME'S POWER GENERATION CAPACITY, REPORTS THAT ONLY ONE OF KABUL'S FOUR TURBINE POWER GENERATORS WAS OPERATING LAST WEEK DUE TO FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS. THE COST TO THE REGIME FOR ONE KILOWATT OF ELECTRICITY IS 20 AFGHANIS BUT THE SUBSIDIZED CHARGE TO THE AVERAGE KABUL RESIDENT IS ROUGHLY ONE AFGHANI. TO MINIMIZE LOSSES THE DRA REGULARLY SHUTS DOWN UP TO THREE OF ITS TURBINES, CAUSING ENTIRE QUARTERS OF THE CITY TO BE BLACKED OUT. BBC IS ATTEMPTING TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE FOUR TURBINES BY REDUCING BY 50 PERCENT ENERGY WASTED BY THE VENTING OF HEAT. EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THE UPGRADE HAS BEEN STUCK IN HAITI FOR FOUR MONTHS, PROMPTING THE HEAD OF BBC IN KABUL TO THREATEN TO ABANDON THE PROJECT AND "GO HOME" IF THE EQUIPMENT IS NOT RECEIVED SOON.

(D) (MORE SOPHISTICATED US WEAPONS TO COME?)

RELIABLE COLLEAGUES REPORT THAT EAST EUROPEAN DIPLOMATS IN KABUL ARE "PUSHING THE STORY" THAT STILL MORE SOPHISTICATED U.S. AND U.K. WEAPONS SOON WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE MUJAHIDIN.

(E) (INDIAN MINISTER ENDORSES "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION")

KABUL MEDIA REPORT THAT, INDIAN MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT NARASIMHARAO IN A MEETING WITH DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MOHATAT, "DECLARED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION DECLARED IN THE DRA..." IN KABUL, HOWEVER, THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR REGULARLY AND ROUTINELY DISPARAGES

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NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AS A FAILED STRATEGY.

20. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EALUM

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